

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

MC-02 ACDA-05 /069 W

----- 051551

R 271743Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2272

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 0432

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, HO

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FMS PURCHASE

REF: (A) COMUSMILGP HONDURAS (DTG 071600Z JUNE 75)

(B) SECDEF WASHDC (ISA(SA)/DSAA-TS 5885(DTG 021458Z SEP 75),

(C) STATE 017123 (DTG 230336Z JAN 76)

1. REF A TRANSMITTED GOH FMSCR TRI-SERVICE PRIORITY LIST WITH EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION TO DENY ACQUISITION OF FOUR EACH 155MM HOWITZERS BY GOH. EMBASSY CONCURRENTLY RECOMMENDED FOUR 105MM HOWITZERS BE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE 155MM HOWITZERS. THE TRI-SERVICE PRIORITY LIST WAS APPROVED WITH RECOMMENDED MODIFICATIONS PER REF B. REF C SUBSEQUENTLY REQUESTED JUSTIFICATION FOR DENIAL OF 155MM HOWITZERS TO GOH.

2. JUSTIFICATION FOR DENIAL OF 155MM HOWITZERS TO GOH AT THE TIME:

(A) BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE THIS POST INDICATES EL SALVADOR DOES NOT HAVE MEDIUM ARTILLERY. DENIAL OF MEDIUM ARTILLERY TO GOH WOULD THEREFORE TEND TO LIMIT ARMS PROLIFERATION/ESCALATION.

(B) GOH LACKS ADVANCED ARTILLERY EXPERIENCE TO INCLUDE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING. GOH POSSESSES

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LIMITED QUANTITY OF SPANISH 105MM HOWITZERS, BUT THEY

ARE IN POOR CONDITION AND WITHOUT DEPENDABLE AMMUNITION.
ACQUISITION OF MEDIUM ARTILLERY PRIOR TO EXPERIENCE WITH
DEPENDABLE 105MM HOWITZERS WHICH ARE PROPERLY SUPPORTED
WOULD BE LOGISTICALLY UNSOUND.

(C) OPERATING COST OF MEDIUM ARTILLERY WOULD ADD ADDI-
TIONAL STRAIN ON LIMITED GOH BUDGET. FOR EXAMPLE, EACH
HIGH EXPLOSIVE ROUND 155-HOW COSTS OVER \$90, WHICH
APPROXIMATELY THREE TIMES THE COST OF A 105MM ROUND.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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